

**ABSTRACT:**

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5 Described is a novel gene and its encoded secreted tumor antigen, termed BPC-1, and to  
diagnostic and therapeutic methods and compositions useful in the management of  
various cancers which express BPC-1, particularly including prostate cancer and  
bladder cancer. In human normal tissues, BPC-1 is only expressed in certain tissues of  
the brain. However, BPC-1 is expressed at high levels in prostate cancer cells and is also  
expressed in bladder cancer cells. The structure of BPC-1 includes a signal sequence  
and a CUB domain. BPC-1 protein is secreted. Preliminary experimental evidence  
10 suggests that BPC-1 is directly involved in oncogenesis or maintenance of the  
transformed phenotype of cancer cells expressing BPC-1. BPC-1 also appears to bind  
specifically to a cellular protein expressed in prostate cancer cells and other cells.

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